

## **CHAPTER 37 – RESPONSIBLE PERSON/CAREGIVER PARTICIPATION IN THERAPY SESSIONS**

INITIAL IMPLEMENTATION DATE: Effective upon signature of Amendment #1  
RFQVA 710000

Qualified Vendors approved to provide therapy (i.e., Occupational, Physical, and Speech) must ensure a caregiver/responsible person is present and participates in all therapy sessions.

- A. Division policy requires a parent/family member or other caregiver (paid/unpaid) to be present and participate in all therapy sessions in order to:
  - 1. Maximize the benefit of therapy services including implementing a home program;
  - 2. Improve outcomes; and,
  - 3. Adhere to legal liability standards.
- B. The member's parent/family member and caregiver are expected to instruct all other caregivers regarding the therapeutic activities that comprise the home program.
- C. If the parent/family member /caregiver does not participate in a therapy session:
  - 1. The therapy session shall be cancelled;
  - 2. The therapist shall contact the Support Coordinator to discuss the lack of parent/family member/caregiver participation prior to the next therapy session; and,
  - 3. The therapist shall document the reason for the cancellation on quarterly progress notes.
- D. When the therapist recommends that the parent/family member/caregiver participate in the therapy session by observing the session outside the eyesight of the member, the therapist shall submit

this recommendation via the evaluation or quarterly progress notes.  
When this type of participation is used:

1. The parent/family member/caregiver shall observe (e.g., one way or two way glass) the therapy session.
  2. The therapist must consult with the parent/family member /caregiver prior to the end of the therapy session to discuss the home program.
- E. The reasons for the requirement set forth above include:
1. Avoiding the risk of sexual abuse and molestation; and,
  2. Ensuring consultation between the therapist and the parent/family member/caregiver to facilitate implementation of the home program.